



Governor Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor Adam Gregg
San Wong, Director



Iowa Youth Congress 2017-2018 Legislative Agenda

The Iowa Youth Congress (IYC) finalized its legislative agenda during their Mock Congress Event in September 2017.

This year IYC is focusing on the following:

Diversity Education – implement cultural education for K-5th grade into an existing social studies class about different cultures and religions around the world, and the importance of respecting and appreciating those practices.

Tobacco Packaging – have Plain Packaging (images of health hazards of tobacco usage) on tobacco products to deter people, namely youth, from using them.

Tobacco 21 – raise the legal purchasing age of tobacco products from 18 to 21 to help limit the amount sold to under-aged minors.

Mental Health Evaluations – in addition to annual physical health check-ups, teens should have evaluations to screen for diagnosable mental health disorders.

Mental Health Training – mental health training once every 3 years during a school in-service day of a minimum of 90 minutes for all educational personnel to recognize the signs of suicide, depression, and mental instabilities in students.

Sexual Violence Awareness – require high schools to have a week long P.E./health course on the education of sexual consent, violence, and healthy relationships.

STEM Incentives – create a program to offer talented, high-valued STEM teachers a stipend as an incentive to choose a career as an educator over a career in industry.

IYC is part of the Iowa Department of Human Rights, whose mission is to ensure basic rights, freedoms, and opportunities for all by empowering underrepresented Iowans and eliminating economic, social, and cultural barriers.